Amendments to the Claims

- 1. (Original) A method for producing a fat, which comprises removing a part or all of fatty acids or their monohydric alcohol esters (FA) from a mixture (MX) containing triglycerides (TG) and fatty acids or their monohydric alcohol esters (FA) by distillation-refining, wherein the removal is performed by adding an organic acid.
- 2. (Original) The method according to claim 1, wherein the mixture (MX) is a selective interesterification reaction product.
- 3. (Currently amended) The method according to claim 1-or-2, wherein a total of triglycerides (TG) and fatty acids or their monohydric alcohol esters (FA) in the mixture (MX) is 95% or larger.
- 4. (Currently amended) The method according to claim 1-or-2, wherein the organic acid is added by allowing to contact an aqueous organic acid solution with the mixture (MX).
- 5. (Original) The method according to claim 2, wherein after removal of only a part of fatty acids or their monohydric alcohol esters (FA) from the mixture (MX), a fresh fatty acid or its monohydric alcohol ester (FA) is added, followed by subjecting the resulting mixture again to the selective interesterification reaction.
- 6. (Original) The method according to claim 5, wherein the removal of only a part of fatty acids or their monohydric alcohol esters (FA) from the mixture (MX) is performed at a temperature of at least 15°C lower than that at which the removal of all of fatty acids or their monohydric alcohol esters (FA) from the mixture (MX) is performed.

- 7. (Original) The method according to claim 5, wherein the fresh fatty acid or its monohydric alcohol ester (FA) is a hydrogenated product of fatty acids or their monohydric alcohol esters (FA) separated from the mixture (MX).
- 8. (New) The method according to claim 2, wherein a total of triglycerides (TG) and fatty acids or their monohydric alcohol esters (FA) in the mixture (MX) is 95% or larger.
- 9. (New) The method according to claim 2, wherein the organic acid is added by allowing to contact an aqueous organic acid solution with the mixture (MX).